left her in the fortieth year of her age;) thereby perhaps deceived, becauſe there was never either ſtone or gravel voided by her. But her laſt *Doctor* (from whom I have this relation,) adjudged it to proceed *ab affectu Nephritico & quidem graviſſimo.* This perſon, when dead of theſe diſtempers, was opened by this her laſt Phyſitian, and among many other common *Phænomena* he found the left *Kidney* filled with large ſtones, but the right wholly petrified, covered with the ordinary skin without any fleſh; the half of which (the other being broken by injurious diſſection) repreſenting ſtill the Kidney, I have ſeen, which was both maſſy and ponderous, ſo concreted by the cloſer coalition of minute ſand, which might be rubbed off by your finger.

The other was a Lad about nineteen years old, who from his Cradle was diſpoſed to a Conſumption, accompanied with continual Coughing, great emaciation and continual heat, ſo that he was reduced to a *Sceleton*, and labouring under this diſtemper died. Being opened, a great quantity of watry matter run out at the *abdomen*, of a chylous conſiſtence; moſt, yea almoſt all the glanduls of the Meſentery, through which paſs the *venæ lacteæ*, were extraordinary great and hardned beyond the hardneſs of a *Scirrhus*. The Breaſt being opened, the Lungs were found grown to it round about, almoſt inſeparable, full of purulent ulcers, but more eſpecially the left ſide, obſtructed and filled with much gravel and ſmall ſtones; yea, whole pieces of the Lungs, eſpecially the extremities, about the thickneſs of a finger and more, were hardned into a ſtony matter.

An Accompt of Four Books.

I. *Franciſci de le Boe Sylvii PRAXIS MEDICÆ Idea nova*, Lugduni Batav. 1671.

THE Learned and Experienced Author of this work, deſiring to furniſh his Auditors with a compendious *Medical Practiſe*, and to do it after the Method of that Excellent and Happy Phyſitian *Platerus*, did propoſe to himſelf to handle chiefly of the more *Simple Affections* of the Humane Body, becauſe they being well underſtood, the knowledge of thoſe that are *Complicate* will not be difficult to attain.

But conſidering with himſelf, that Mans good Health conſiſts in and is known by the Integrity and good diſpoſition of all his *Functions*; and want of Health, in and by the indiſpoſition and depravation of the ſame, he thought fit to treat of thoſe Affections, that occur in the Practiſe of Phyſitians, according to the difference of thoſe depraved Functions. And foraſmuch as theſe Functions ſerve either for the *Conſervation* of the *Individual*, or the *Propagation* of the *Species*; and the former of theſe is conveniently ſubdivided into the *Natural*, ſerving for the various charge of ſubſtances taken inwardly, and the *Animal* Functions, conſiſting in the knowledge of all ſorts of things by the External and Internal ſenſes, as alſo in the various Motion of the Soul and Body; He therefore diſtributeth this whole *Praxis* into *three* Books, which treat of the *Affections*, reſpecting the Indiſpoſed *Functions* of Man. I. The *Natural*. II. The *Animal*; and *III*. Thoſe that ſerve for *Generation*.

We ſhall not enlarge here by repreſenting any particulars of this Work, but refer the Judicious Reader to its peruſal and conſideration, by which as he will doubtleſs meet with many uſeful Medical Preſcriptions and Remedies, ſo he will not find it barren of conſiderable Obſervations and Experiments relating to Natural Philoſophy, and in particular to Anatomy.

II. *Relatione dello Stato preſente dell' EGYPTO, ſcritta dal Sig. Gio.* Michaele Vanſlebio, *è dedicata al Grand Duca di Toſcana. In* Parigi, 1670. *in* 12°.

PAſſing by what this Relation obſerveth of the Political Government of *Egypt*, and the Original Language and Religion of the *Cophthes*, (which maketh a great part of the Book, but is not ſuitable with the deſign of theſe Tracts,) we ſhall take ſome notice of what it delivers concerning the Natural State and Productions of the Country, the Oeconomy of the Inhabitants, and the Magnificent Structures yet remaining there.

Firſt then the Author obſerveth, that the winter of *Egypt* is ſo mild, as to be like to the March-air of *Rome*; and that the uſual time of *Rain* is in the months of *December*, *January* and *February*, and that principally about the Sea-coaſt: Of *Tempeſts*, from Eaſter to Whitſontide, when the Wind is for the moſt

moſt part Eaſterly: Of the moſt agreeable weather, in *November* and *December*, when the Countrey is dry'd again from the *Nile* waters, and all things in a verdure, the winds gentle and the Sun tolerable: Of the violent heats, in *April*, *May*, *June*, and further till the inundation of the *Nile* cooleth the Air; which begins in *July* and ends in *September* or *October*; and proveth the great and general manure of that Country, when it ariſeth above ſixteen *braccia* or Italian Ells; beneath which when it ſtops, the Inhabitants are not obliged to pay any tribute to the G. *Signior*. The cauſe of this Inundation as 'tis principally the plenty of rain falling in *Abyſſinia*, ſo this Author taketh in the *Northerly* winds beginning in *June*, and laſting till *October*, and hindering the waters of the *Nile* from diſcharging themſelves into the Mediteranean. Theſe waters being generally eſteem'd very good, are clear'd from their turbidneſs by bitter Almonds beaten and thrown in.

When he ſpeaketh of the Animals of *Egypt*, he taketh particular notice of the great variety and abundance of *Birds* there.

When he ſpecifieth the vaſt number of *Vegetables*, he giveth an account of the various uſes of the *Dactil-tree*, and particularly, that the ſtones of *Dates* are given to *Camels* in long voyages; as alſo, that Horſes as long as they feed upon *Trefoil*, have no drink given them.

Treating of the *Foſſils* of Egypt, he obſerveth, that their *Niter* is moſt abounding in the Deſert of St. *Macare*; and that about *Thebe* there is digged up ſtore of Marble, Porphyre, Alablaſter, Granates, &c.

Secondly, as to the *Oeconomy* of the Egyptians, he relateth at large their practiſe of Agriculture, and noteth, that they do not cut, but pull up their Corn, and that their Corn-harveſt is from the middle of *April* to the middle of *May*; yea that ſometimes even before the middle of *April* new bread is eaten in *Cairo*. In Villages, for want of Ovens, they bake their Bread under the hot Aſhes; and, in making their bread, ſome put *Niter* into the dough, to raiſe and colour it: which muſt be eaten new, or elſe 'tis not good. Among their Drinks they have 1. *Meath*, which, though it inebriateth, yet they are permitted to drink, though wine be forbidden them: 2. A Liquor very refreſhing, made by the *Mores* of *Licoriſh*.

As to their way of Building, diſtinctions obſerv'd in Cloathing, and their Fuel, I refer to the Authour himſelf.

Thirdly, concerning the remainders of the Antient Buildings this Author delivers many particulars, conſonant to what others have written of the ſame, as *Pyramids, Obelisks, Aqueducts*, the Colomn of *Pompey*, &c.

III. *Theod. Kerckringii M. D. Commentarius in CURRUM TRIUMPHALEM ANTIMONII Baſil. Valentini, à ſe Latinitate donatum.* Amſtelodami, 1671. *in* 12°.

THis Learned Phyſitian aſſureth the Reader in the *Preface* to this Book, that having carefully peruſed the Antimonial Treatiſe of *Valentin*, he tried all the particulars, ordered therein to be done; but that in the performance thereof he erred frequently, and was at great expences without ſucceſs, yet not by any default of the Author, but alwaies his own; eſteeming this *Baſil* to be the beſt, the ſincereſt and the cleareſt of all Chymiſts he knoweth, and engaging his credit, that he being well underſtood, you may have what ever can be hoped for from Chymiſtry; Nature having lodged, as he thinks, all her Treaſures in this Mineral, p. 42.

In his Commentary upon this *Chariot* he intimateth to have delivered ſome *Encheresès* or Manual Operations, which, how ſlight ſoever they may ſeem, he ſaith have coſt him man thouſands; adding, that patience in ſearching, ability in expending, unwearied attention and deep meditation, are the requiſites to attain the knowledge of what is here contained.

Of the many things, that are ſaid concerning the excellent uſefulneſs of *Antimonial* Preparations, our Commentator extols in a very eſpecial manner the *Red Oyl of the Glaſs of Antimony* of which yet he teacheth the way of preparing it but ænigmatically, though he adds, to have done it more clearly than any body declared it to him. This he affirms to be the truly *Univerſal Medicine*, being ſeaſonably and rightly uſed; alledging (p. 164 165.) a conſiderable Experiment of his own, made with it, importing, that by the means of this *Diaphoretick Oyl* alone he cured a young woman of a high *Dropſie* in twenty daies, making her on the fourth and the following days ſo to ſwim in water from ſweat, that it dropped at length through the bed upon the floor.

Beſides

Beſides this, he much praiſeth, for *Chirurgical* uſes, the *Balſom* or *Tincture* of the *Sulphur* of *Antimony*, affirming upon his credit, that *Baſil Valentin* hath not given the full due to its worth; and relating withall (p. 157. 158.) the Hiſtory of a Cure, he performed with it upon a cancred Breaſt, that had been under the hands of ſome of the moſt expert Chirurgions, who judged it not curable but by cutting it off; which our Author prevented by the uſe and application of this Balſom, whereby within two days the matter was brought to due maturity, and, upon the joint uſe of ſome proper internal Medicines, the perſon in the ſpace of two months reſtored to perfect health.

There is another Preparation of Antimony here deſcribed, and praiſed above all the reſt, call'd by *Baſil*, his *Balſom of Life*, by which he affirms to have cured many that were altogether deſpaired of, appealing herein to the teſtimony of his Brethren. In which he is ſeconded by this Commentator, who declareth, that in this Medicine is contained not only what can be made of Antimony, but almoſt all, what can be prõſed by a Spagyriſt.

For the other particulars we ſhall leave the Reader to the careful peruſal of the Book it ſelf, and the cautious trial of the Experiments and Operations contain'd therein.

IV. *Cogitationes Phyſico-Mechanicæ de Natura VISIONIS Auth.* Johanne Ott *Schaphuſa-Helvetio*. Heidelbergæ 1670. *in* 4°.

THis Author ſhews himſelf to be a great Admirer of *Algebra*, aſſerting this *Theſis* about it, in one of the Corollaries annexed to this Book:

Analyſis Geometrarum vera eſt methodus inveniendi & demonſtrandi; ipſiuſque ratio à Carteſio *tradita quicquid Syntheſis habet egregii, Cavalerii Methodus Indiviſibilium abſtruſi, Thomæ Hobbes Computatio veri & ſolidi, & Analyſis Veterum abſconditi plenè continet.*

And whatever he hath perform'd, he profeſſeth he hath obtain'd by means of this *Analyſis*; ſaying thus in his Dedication.

Ex quo Teleſcopiorum Inventum mundo innoteſcere cæpit, viri variam illius rationem reddere conati ſunt, & quidem omnes ferè non niſi ex Sphæræ ſectione Tuborum lentes polire tentârunt, donec Carteſius *tandem Sectiones Coni negotio Dioptrico aptiores eſſe demonſtraret. Non tamen defuerunt, qui contrarium aſſerendo, aut omnino inutiles eſſe affirmando demonſtrationibus* Carteſii *obſtreperent.*

ſtreperent. Mecum verò omnium rationes perpendens, Carteſii *ratiocinium firmo talo niti, Analyſeos beneficio deprehendi; nec ulla in re hæſitavi quàm quomodo figuræ illæ in Plano delineari aut ſolidæ materiæ induci poſſent. Ipſius enim* Carteſii *machina nimis compoſita videbatur, motuſq; nimium complicatus; adeóque commiſſo in unico levi errore non poſſe non majorem ſucceſſive generari, extra dubium erat Quamobrem machinam quandam ſimplicem conficiendam eſſe linearum Conicarum naturam requirere ſenſi. Monente autem Clariſſ. Dom.* Spleiſſio, *Mathematico ſubtiliſſ. & Aſtron. Incomparabili, operi me accinxi, ac in ſubſidium vocatâ methodo ſeu Geometria* Carteſii, *ante triennium Machinam quandam fabre-fieri curavi quæ ſimplicitate ſuâ & motûs regularitate nulli alii cederet; ea autem paucos ante menſes ultimum perfectionis ſuæ gradum conſecuta eſt. Abſolutâ autem machinâ, operi me confeſtim applicui. ferro inducendo figuras Conicas, præcipuè verò Hyperbolas & Parabolas, quarum focus* 1.2.10.25.50. *pedes & ultra à vertice abeſſet. Præterquam enim quòd Inſtrumento meo cujuſcunq; generis* Hyperbolæ, Ellipſes ac Parabolæ *deſcribi queunt, ut &* Circuli *ſegmentum quodcunq;, id tamen quod machinæ perfectionem commendat, hoc eſt, quòd nullo limite claudatur ipſius Uſus; vix enim ſex pedes maximâ ſua extenſione ſuperat machina, ipſius tamen ope, Arcus* Circuli, Ellipſis, Parabolæ, atq; Hyperbolæ *delineari poterit, qui vitro inſculptus tubum* 10, 100, 1000 *pedum requirat. In proxima verò Sylvæ* Herciniæ *vitrariâ, modulis beneficio cuneorum confectis Vitra infundere curavi, quæ quamvis inutilia fuerint ob materiem impuritatibus ſcatentem, attamen Coni Sectiones maximè accommodatas eſſe Dioptrico uſui, ipſaſq; in Plano delineari poſſe deprehendi; ita ut mediante machina mea celeberrimam iſtam inter nobiliſſimos mathematicos agitatam controverſiam determinare poſſim.*

Concerning his Dioptrical Studies he ſaith, that remote from other Maſters and Books, by the conduct of the Carteſian *Analyſis* he hath begun to wind himſelf by a long *Calculus* out of the Labyrinth of Viſion, and by the means of *Æquations* diſcover'd vers truths both theorical and practical; among which he del vers one, which commends it ſelf both by its newneſs and uſefulneſ, which is, To contract the longeſt Tubes without at all prejudicing their perfection, by magnifying ſo much the angle of Viſion, that the longeſt Tube ſhall not perform the like, the Lateral rays being ſo accurately ſecluded, that more of them ſhal

trouble

trouble any of the longeſt Tubes, then thoſe ſhort ones of his contrivance; of which he ſaith he hath given the grounds in this Tract: Wherein he affirms he delivers an *Hypotheſis*, whereby the *Nature* and *Manner* of *Viſion* is ſo clearly and diſtinctly exhibited, that no *Phænomenon* ſhall occur which may not be readily explained thereby; aſſuming to this end the moſt ſignal Experiments and Geometrical reaſons; and explicating withall ſome *phænomena*, conducive to the ſame; as of Firmneſs, Fluidity, Refraction, Reflection, Lucidity, Tranſparency, Opacity, Colors, and the Parts of the Eye: In the doing of which he inſerts this generous and candid Paragraph, pag. 7.

Miſſis illis occultis qualitatibus & ſimilibus, nunquam à quoquam revelandis, eorum Philoſophorum modum ſequi magis arridet, qui Regiam viam, deſertis dumetis & ſpinis, calcare malunt, ex claris & diſtinctis principiis exordium capeſſendo, atq; Experimentis Ratiocinia, in rebus præſertim Phyſicis, confirmando, in auxilium vocatis Geometrarum demonſtrationibus; ad normam Regiæ indolis, Societatis Anglicanæ; quorum inſtitutum ſi à ducentis jam ſeculis proſecutum fuiſſet Genus humanum, & amicâ conſpiratione eorum viam legiſſet, quin Naturæ penetralia intimius perſpecta haberemus, & Naturæ quaſi Domini ſalutaremur, ego nullus dubito. Nunquam tamen deſuerunt, qui id pro viribus præſtiterunt, præſertim Mathematici & Veterum Philoſophorum nonnulli; quamquam opus illud non ſit unius alteriuſve hominis, ſed plurium, imò integræ cujuſdam Societatis, ex diverſis tum nationibus tum locis coagmentatæ.

For the reſt the Reader may peruſe the Book it ſelf; of which yet I fear there are but very few *Copies* hitherto come over, if any more than that, out of which this Accompt is given.

An Obſervation concerning certain Inſect-husks of the Kermes-*kind communicated by Mr.* Liſter, *May* 22. 1671. *which came to hand ſince the Printing of the former ſheets.*

I Gave you a ſhort account formerly * of certain *matrices* or Inſect-husks, of the *Kermes*-kind, which I had ſome years ſince obſerv'd on Plumb-trees. This inſtant *May* hath afforded me the ſame Obſervation, and ſome little improvement of it. I have obſerved the ſame *Patellæ* or Husks indifferently

* *March* 17, 167$\frac{2}{3}$. I find in my *Notes* (ſaith he) that ſome years ago I gather'd off our Engliſh Oak round Worm-husks very like *Kermes*-berries, but I then made no tryal of them. Again, I have often obſerved on *Plumb trees* and *Cherry-trees*; alſo on the *Vine* and *Cherry-Laurel* certain *patellæ* or flat Husks containing worms, which (or at leaſt the husks; for them only I had the opportunity of making the Experiment on) will ſtrike a Carnation with Ly and ſtand.

rently on *Vine-branches*, *Cherry-Laurel*, *Plumb-trees*, and the *Cherry tree*. The *figure* of the husks is round, ſave where it cleav'd to the branch; for *bigneſs*, ſom what mo e than half a grey pea. Theſe, Iſay, cleave to their branches, as *patellæ* do to Rocks: For *colour*; they are of a very dark Cheſnut, extreamly ſmooth, and ſhining membran-like. They adhere moſt commonly to the under-ſide of a branch or twig, and ſo are beſt ſecur'd againſt the injuries of the weather, as too much Sun and Rain. They are well faſtned to the branches ſingle, and ſometimes many in company. They are ſeldom found without vermin, as Piſmires, &c. which, I gueſs, pierce them and pray upon them. Thus much for the entire *Coccum*. If you open one of them, that is, cut off dextrouſly the top of the husk with a raſor, you'l find ſometimes five or more ſmall white magots of the Waſp or Bee-kind, that is, ſharp at both ends. When theſe are carefully taken out, you will further obſerve the remainder of their proviſion of meat, and a partition 'twixt them and the branch, where, what they excerne, is reſerv'd. Laſtly, if, when you have clear'd the Husk of Maggots, Bee-meat, and excrements, you then rub the empty membran upon white paper, it will freely and copiouſly tinge the paper with a beautiful purple or murrey. At the *date* of this, none of the Maggots were yet in *nympha*, ſo that you cannot expect from me a deſcription of the Bee or Waſp they will turn to, when they come to perfection. Before the ſeaſon be over, the Curious may ſatisfie themſelves forthwith about it, and verifie and improve it. Few *Cherry-trees*, I ſuppoſe, in any place, but will yield them ſome of theſe Berries. How-ever, if they ſhall not be ſo fortunate as to light on them, I ſhall furniſh you with them, &c.

ERRATA.

Pag. 2148. *l.* 17. *r.* it is. *p.* 2153. *l.* 15. *r.* Bœotia.

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